

MEMO

TO: Energy and Environment Committee
FROM: Ted Harris, Associate Regional Planner, 213-236-1916, harrist@scag.ca.gov
DATE: October 7, 2004
SUBJECT: Air Quality Update


Recommended Action:

Information.

BACKGROUND

New transportation air quality conformity regulations, recently promulgated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), require SCAG to make a conformity determination on the 2004 Regional Transportation Plan and the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) for the 8-hour ozone standard by June 15, 2005. Conformity determinations on the new fine particulate matter (PM2.5) standard are expected to be required by December 2005 or January 2006. These conformity determinations do not restart the three-year conformity clock for 2004 RTP and do not change the schedule of committed control measures, such as Transportation Control Measures (TCMs). The attached Powerpoint presentation outlines the process to meet these new transportation conformity standards.

Staff will continue to coordinate with the federal agencies to help ensure that the SCAG region adheres to these new regulations on schedule and to help improve air quality throughout Southern California.





Energy and Environment Committee

Air Quality Update

Ted Harris
Air Quality Program Lead
Southern California
Association of Governments


October 7, 2004



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Air Quality Update



Overview of Transportation Conformity and New Standards


- Transportation conformity?
- 8-hour ozone standard
- Revocation of the 1-hour ozone standard
- PM_{2.5} standard

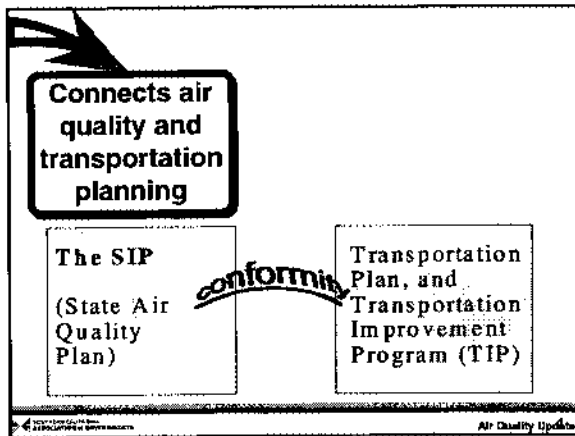

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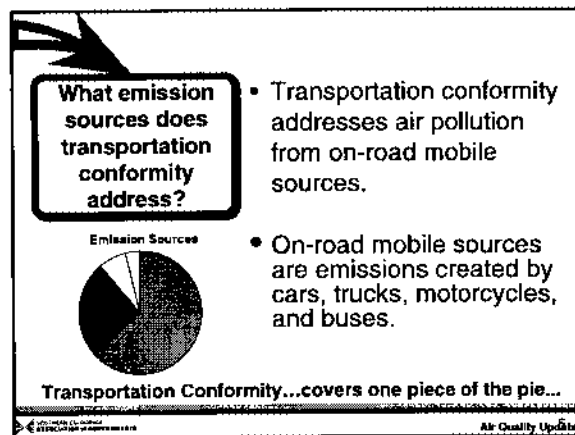


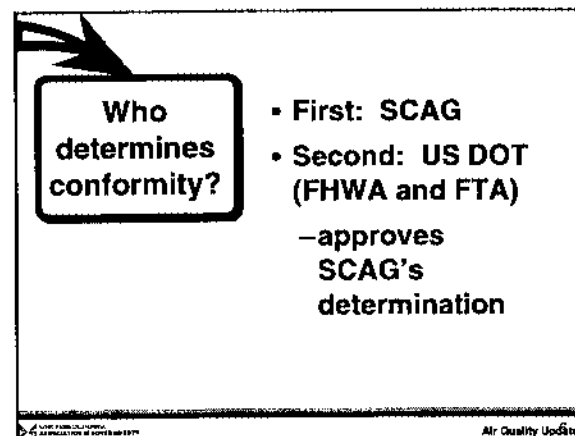
What is transportation conformity?

- Established by the Federal Clean Air Act
- Requires evaluation of emissions from RTP and RTIP before they are approved
- Applies in ozone, CO, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and NO₂ areas designated as nonattainment or maintenance


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**EPA's role
in the
process**

- Interagency Consultation
- Approves/disapproves SIPs
- Determines if emission budgets are adequate
- Promulgates and interprets conformity regulations

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
AIR QUALITY CRITERIA

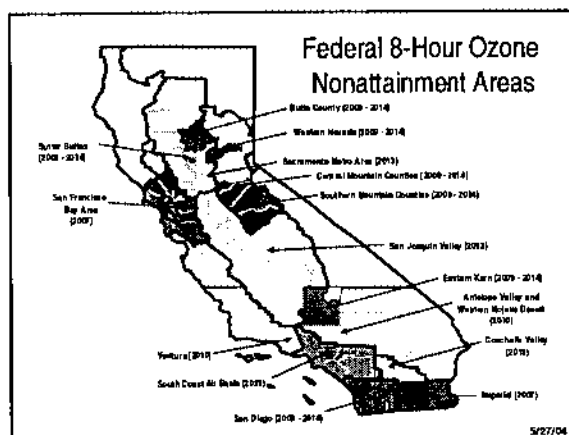
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**New 8-hour
ozone
standard**

- Same pollutant as 1-hour ozone standard
 - Reading over an 8-hour period rather than a 1-hour period
- Effective date of designation: June 15, 2004
- 8-hour conformity applies: June 15, 2005
 - FHWA must make a determination by 6/15/05
- EPA developing Phase 2 final rule now

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
AIR QUALITY CRITERIA

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Revocation of 1-hour ozone standard

- Effective June 15, 2005
- No 2010 SCAB attainment
- SIP control measures remain with same schedules
 - TCMs
 - Long-term measures
- However, approved 1-hour budgets apply for 8-hour until new AQMP/SIP in ~2007

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Air Quality Update

Process for 8-hour Conformity Determination

- Emissions analysis for new attainment years
 - Imperial County-2007
 - Coachella Valley-2013
 - SCAB-2021
- Interagency consultation
- Public participation
- Other work as needed
- FHWA approval

Imperial County Air Quality Update


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New PM_{2.5} standard

- PM_{2.5} is a different pollutant than PM₁₀, not just a different standard
- EPA intends to designate areas by Nov/Dec 2004
 - Effective date Jan/Feb 2005
 - Conformity applies 1 year after effective date: Jan/Feb 2006
- Broader PM_{2.5} implementation strategy rule under development

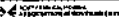
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Transportation Sources of PM_{2.5}

- Exhaust
- Brake and tire wear
- Re-entrained dust from paved and unpaved roads
- Construction dust from highway and transit construction
- PM_{2.5} precursors
 - will be addressed in separate final rule before PM_{2.5} designations are effective




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Next Steps

- 8-hour ozone conformity
 - Emissions analysis
 - Interagency consultation
 - Public participation
 - Other work as needed
 - FHWA approval
- PM_{2.5} conformity process
 - EPA will designate in fall 2004



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